

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

### Mass Intentions

**April 27 - May 3**

|                        |            |                    |
|------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <b>Monday, 4/27</b>    | 9:00 a.m.  | William Farmer     |
| <b>Tuesday, 4/28</b>   | 9:00 a.m.  | Levin Comly        |
| <b>Wednesday, 4/29</b> | 9:00 a.m.  | Joanne Burke Ryan  |
|                        | 7:30 p.m.  | Jose Luis Gonzalez |
| <b>Thursday, 4/30</b>  | 9:00 a.m.  | Michael Ambrosia   |
| <b>Friday, 5/1</b>     | 9:00 a.m.  | Barbara Lynn Beall |
|                        | 7:30 p.m.  | Tom Mason          |
| <b>Saturday, 5/2</b>   | 9:00 a.m.  | Elaine Becker      |
|                        | 5:00 p.m.  | Marge Locke        |
| <b>Sunday, 5/3</b>     | 8:00 a.m.  | Jimmy Gierula      |
|                        | 9:30 a.m.  | Gena Asuncion      |
|                        | 11:15 a.m. | Margaret Vargo     |
|                        | 5:00 p.m.  | <i>Pro populo</i>  |

**Mass Intentions will be prayed for in a private daily Mass said by Fr. John.**

#### **+ In Memoriam Aeternam +**

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Raymond Agricola, husband of Jane Agricola, Placido Brito, uncle of Deacon Will Garcia, Teresa Maguire, mother of Meg Mikula.

**Please pray for the sick...** Mary McGrath, James Charbonneau, Allison Brauer, John McCormick, Danielle Payen, Susan & Mickey Spalding, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Margaret Weiss, Joseph Michael Gardner, Tom Breece, Sandra Kimball, Dennis Parnell, Ed Dudenhoefter, Jackie Roebuck King, Jeni Stepanek. *(Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)*

#### **Readings for the Week of April 26, 2020**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday:</b>      | Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [11a]/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35 |
| <b>Monday:</b>      | Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29                     |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>     | Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35    |
| <b>Wednesday:</b>   | Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66: 1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40                           |
| <b>Thursday:</b>    | Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51                            |
| <b>Friday:</b>      | Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59                             |
| <b>Saturday:</b>    | Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69                     |
| <b>Next Sunday:</b> | Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10       |

#### **THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR**

Christ is risen, alleluia! He is risen indeed, alleluia! Even though the Coronavirus pandemic continues, I have decided not to write about it today or in the next several columns. I have chanced upon a presentation of the history of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, which celebrated its one hundredth anniversary in 1917. There are some little known facts about American Catholic history in its founding. It is worth telling some of those stories of that history in this column. It will be a good diversion for all of us.

In 1917, the United States entered the First World War. Because American Catholics were suspected in some quarters of not being patriotic citizens, James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, wrote to President Woodrow Wilson. In his letter Cardinal Gibbons pledged the loyalty of the American Catholic Church. He offered its resources telling President Wilson “Our people, as ever, will rise as one man to serve the nation.”

When the US Catholic Bishops gathered for a meeting at Catholic University in 1917, they selected Paulist Father John Burke to serve as the first general secretary of the National Catholic War Council (NCWC). The NCWC’s Catholic Chaplaincy program recruited nearly 1,500 chaplains by the end of the First World War. The NCWC Chaplaincy program worked closely with the Knights of Columbus to provide spiritual and recreational activities for U.S. soldiers heading off to war. As you can well imagine, the chaplains were in great demand owing to the huge mobilization of troops.

In 1919, the special war work of the NCWC included overseas workers who were sent to war-ravaged Europe to help the local populations and to provide community centers for soldiers waiting for transport back to the U.S.A. Many women served as these overseas workers. These overseas workers taught work skills to war widows and young women. They also fed them and housed them in various cities in Poland, Belgium, Italy, and France. These overseas workers also assisted orphans and refugees whose homes and livelihoods had been destroyed by the long war. This post-war work allowed people who had been stricken to be restored spiritually and economically. The overseas workers and chaplains also honored those Americans killed in battle who were left behind. By late 1920 they returned stateside. The contributions of these overseas workers have been documented in a book by Marguerite Boylan entitled *They Shall Live Again*.

The NCWC’s program of Social Reconstruction was heavily influenced by the teachings of Pope Leo XIII, especially in his very important encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (“On Capital and Labor”) that was issued in 1891. Pope Benedict XV gave his approval to the NCWC in 1920. When Pope Benedict XV died in 1922, some important prelates in Rome recommended that the newly elected Pope Pius XI suppress the NCWC as dangerous innovation.

*Continued in the column to the right.....*

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## Third Sunday of Easter

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*When have I acutely realized the Lord's presence? In the Eucharist? In listening to Scripture? When we gather in His name? In my day-to-day life?*

### SUNDAY MASS VIA YOU TUBE

Fr. John says Mass every Sunday at 10 a.m. from the St. Clare Chapel. Please visit our website [www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org) for more information and also the link to the Mass on Sunday.

### FAITH DIRECT - ONLINE GIVING

I want to invite you in joining me and many others at St. Francis of Assisi in setting up recurring eGiving through Faith Direct. Thanks to eGiving, your weekly offertory will be automatically taken care of, which saves you time and saves our parish money by eliminating all those unused offertory envelopes. To sign up for electronic contributions visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net). The code for St. Francis is MD110 or text the word ENROLL to 301-804-2584. I want to thank you for your continued support of our parish family especially during these trying times. God Bless You, *Fr. John*

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

In response to this action the group of American Archbishops who formed the executive committee of the Council appealed to Pius XI to reconsider the suppression of the NCWC. Because canon lawyers in Rome had problems calling the NCWC the National Catholic Welfare Council, the American Bishops agreed to change its name to the National Catholic Welfare Conference. When Pope Pius XI ended the brief suppression of the NCWC in 1922, his letter to the American Bishops included the following points:

1. "The National Catholic Welfare Conference is not only useful but necessary."
2. "It is imperative that by taking counsel together you all agree on one common aim and with one united will strive for its attainment, by employing as you now do, the means which are adequate and adapted to present-day conditions."
3. "By uniting ever more closely the forces that you have at your command, you will impart to the Christian life in your country a greater and greater vigor in the spirit of justice and charity."
4. "We praise all who in any way cooperate with you in this great work."

I shall continue this story in next week's column. I'll leave you with this story. In the early decades of the twentieth century, there were four American Bishops who were members of the College of Cardinals. Cardinal O'Connell in Boston, Cardinal Hayes in New York, Cardinal Dougherty in Philadelphia, and Cardinal Mundelein in Chicago. They were considered to be the movers and shakers of the Catholic Church in the USA in the 1920s and 1930s. The joke that was told at the time was even though NCWC officially means National Catholic Welfare Council, it really means Nothing Counts West (of) Chicago.

Until next week, *Fr. John*

### PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen*

**THANK YOU TO THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PARISH DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO!!**

### ARE YOU CELEBRATING A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR?

The annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held Sunday, **June 28, 2020** at 2:00 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. ***At this time it is anticipated that this celebration will take place.*** Please email the parish office to register [dzezzo@sfadw.org](mailto:dzezzo@sfadw.org). Please include the following information in your email:

- Name of the couple (as you want it printed on the certificate)
- Mailing Address
- Telephone Number or email
- Number of years married
- Will you attend the Mass if it is held

Names of Jubilarians need to be turned into the parish office on or before **Monday, May 18**. Please **do not call the parish office** as it is closed at this time. You can also mail in the above information to the Parish Office, ATT: Donna Zizzo.

### FORMED

#### THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND

The best Catholic content. All in one place. It's EASY and FREE to Register!

- 1) Go to [sfadw.formed.org](http://sfadw.formed.org)
- 2) Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password
- 3) You're all ready to access the inspiring and Engaging content on FORMED!
- 4) Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

FORMED is available 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. St. Francis has purchased this gift for parish use.

FORMED is also offering many resources for parishioners to use for meditation and prayer during this difficult time.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 2323

The Knights of Columbus are looking for new, transferring or readmitted members to share in their Charity, Fraternity, Unity and Patriotism activities. Council 2323 supports many St. Francis activities and has many social events. The K of C offers life and long term care insurance opportunities as well as annuities. A new opportunity: join as an Online Member for \$30 per year; go to [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) and click on "Join Us". If you wish you can join the Council later. If interested in learning more, contact Gary Palmer (301) 948-6494 or email [gtdbpalmer@verizon.net](mailto:gtdbpalmer@verizon.net).

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN** If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (240) 751-7259 or [mariannebu@comcast.net](mailto:mariannebu@comcast.net) with your requests.

### INVITATION TO PRAY

Please remember we have the outdoor Stations of the Cross which you are welcome to visit and pray the Stations. Also, we have our Mary Garden where you can also pray. ***Please remember to keep social distancing when visiting either of these locations.***

### FUNDRAISING EVENTS POSTPONED

Our Annual Yard Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 9th is being postponed to a later date. There is a possibility it may also be cancelled for this year. Please watch the bulletin for additional information.

Our Annual Plant Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 1-3 is being postponed to a later date. There is a possibility this may also be cancelled. Please watch the bulletin for additional information.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In keeping with the public health emergency measures in place to limit the spread of the coronavirus, St. Francis Religious Education classes and Religious Education program activities will not be meeting until further notice. During this time when we cannot meet, we are providing resources for use at home and are sending these by email each week. Families are encouraged to continue to be intentional about faith formation through use of these at-home lessons and by sharing prayer daily. Religious Education program updates are being sent through *Flocknote*. If you are not receiving these messages, please contact Susan Anderson at [sander-son@sfadw.org](mailto:sander-son@sfadw.org).

### A MILLION ROSARIES

Every prayer counts! Please join the Little Sisters of the Poor in praying one million Rosaries to conquer the Coronavirus pandemic. Sign up for the one million Rosary campaign at <http://littlesistersofthepoor.org>.

## THIS WEEK AT HOME

(Bulletin Insert)

### Monday, April 27 - Signs

When the people ask Jesus how to do God's will, Jesus tells them to believe that God sent him. In Acts, we hear how Stephen so utterly believed in Jesus that he shared Christ's power to work "great wonders and signs." Such signs were meant to help people believe that God sent Jesus for the salvation of the world, but many people struggled to accept the meaning of the signs as well as Jesus' identity. Read John 6:1-15 and reflect on all that this sign means.

### Tuesday, April 28 - Always

After eating the bread that Jesus gave them, the crowd asks to have "this bread always." Jesus clarifies that he himself is their bread—and those who believe in him will have this bread *always*. Even during death, a death that resembled Jesus', the apostle Stephen experiences the enduring presence of Christ. In what ways have you seen that Christ is always with you?

### Wednesday, April 29 - St. Catherine of Siena

Jesus declares that he will welcome everyone who seeks him, for God wills that people find life through his Son. The Samaritans find life in the Son because of Philip, who preaches, expels demons, and heals people in their midst. St. Catherine, who also wanted Christ to have all that his Father entrusted to him, passionately and persistently advocated for reforms within the Church. Her work was quite different from Philip's, but both labored in fidelity to Christ and his Father. Learn a little more about St. Catherine of Siena today.

### Thursday, April 30 - Drawn by God

Before Jesus, God revealed himself in events, through the prophets, and in his laws. Now God draws people through the fullest revelation of himself possible: his Son. The man in the passage from Acts first encounters God through the prophet Isaiah. When Philip, led by the Holy Spirit, explains the meaning of the text and tells him about Jesus, the man believes and is baptized. We cannot know God all by ourselves. Thank someone today who helped draw you to God.

### Friday, May 1 - Seeing and Believing

When Jesus continued talking about how he is the bread of life, people became more resistant to his claims. Saul rejected Jesus' claims so completely that he attacked Jesus' followers. Then Saul had an encounter with Jesus that left him as physically blind as he was spiritually blind. Saul, now St. Paul, only recovered his sight when he accepted that Jesus truly did come from heaven, sent by his Father. How have you failed to see Christ? What helped you to see him?

### Saturday, May 2 - St. Athanasius

When others turn away from Jesus, Peter remains, saying that Jesus has "the words of eternal life." Filled with faith in Christ, Peter later heals people and even raises a woman from the dead. During the fourth century, people vigorously debated whether Jesus was truly one with his Father. St. Athanasius insisted that he was, because only then would God have fully revealed himself and his saving love for the life of the world. Reflect on and pray with the words of the Nicene Creed.